

Response
Application No. 10/656,247
Attorney Docket No. 042300

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the present application. No amendment has been proposed. It is respectfully submitted that this Response is fully responsive to the Office Action dated April 4, 2006.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets forth the following rejections:

1) claims 1, 3, 4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Shintani et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,137,546); and

2) claims 2 and 5 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shintani et al.

Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 calls for, inter alia, *a first channel searching means for tuning in to the broadcasting channels in a predetermined order using the first digital receiving unit, ... ; second channel searching means for tuning in to the broadcasting channels in an order opposite to the first channel searching means using the second digital receiving unit, ..., each of the*

channel searching means comprising means for judging, when a search for the subsequent channel is started, whether or not the receivable channel information or the information indicating that receiving is impossible is stored in the channel map with respect to the subsequent channel. Independent claim 4 is drawn to a similar embodiment.

The applied reference of Shintani discloses an autoprogrammer for a television receiver capable of receiving conventional analog (NTSC) channels and DTV (8VSB) channels. In Shintani, conventional analog channels are identified and then skip channel data for each of the channels is stored in a memory. Subsequently, DTV channels are identified and then skip channel data for each identified DTV channels is entered in the memory.

However, it is respectfully submitted that Shintani fails to disclose or fairly suggest that the search for the DTV channels is conducted in an order opposite from the search of the conventional analog (NTSC) channels. Instead, as clearly shown in steps 64-74 and 88-92 of the flowchart in Fig. 6 of Shintani, the channel searches for the conventional analog (NTSC) channels and the DTV (8VSB) channels are conducted in the same order from the lowest channel to the highest channel.

In addition, it is submitted that during the search of the conventional analog (NTSC) channels in steps 64-76, Shintani fails to judge when a search for a subsequent channel is started,

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whether or not the receivable channel information or the information indicating that receiving is impossible is stored in the channel map with respect to the subsequent channel, as specifically called for in claim 1.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Shintani fails to disclose or fairly suggest the features of claim 1 concerning *a first channel searching means for tuning in to the broadcasting channels in a predetermined order using the first digital receiving unit, ... ; second channel searching means for tuning in to the broadcasting channels in an order opposite to the first channel searching means using the second digital receiving unit, ..., each of the channel searching means comprising means for judging, when a search for the subsequent channel is started, whether or not the receivable channel information or the information indicating that receiving is impossible is stored in the channel map with respect to the subsequent channel.*

Further, with regard to dependent claims 2 and 5, it is submitted that the Examiner has failed to appreciate that according to each of these claims the first and second channel searches are conducted in ascending and descending order of their frequencies, respectively. As such, it is submitted that the Official Notice taken by the Examiner regarding searching channels in a television receiver in either ascending or descending order fails to address the feature concerning

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conducting the first and second channel searches in ascending and descending order of their frequencies, respectively, as set forth in each of claims 2 and 5.

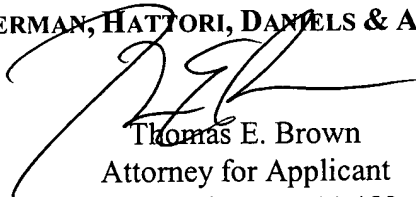
In view of the aforementioned remarks, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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